

UNM recognizes excellence of a Corps employee

By Bruce Hill, Jr. and Kelsey Seeger, USACE Public Affairs

For one so young, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District employee has proven herself to be an extraordinary individual as her growing pile of achievements attest.

Deanna Armijo, a recent graduate of the University of New Mexico, and daughter of Theresa Armijo, Chief of Contracting Division, has lobbied in Washington D.C., held the title of President in her sorority, and continues to volunteer her time with the Big Brothers and Big Sisters program. To top off her undergraduate career, UNM recognized her many achievements with the prestigious 2007 Claude Outstanding Senior Award in April.

The award, named after Dean Emeritus Lena Claude, is for those UNM seniors who display leadership qualities, are active participants in the community, and demonstrate their dedication to academics by having at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average during their career at UNM. The Claude Outstanding Senior Award was given to only seven of the 1,680

graduating undergraduate seniors, and reflects the mutual gains between Armijo and UNM.

"Community and campus involvement taught me valuable lessons,

created lifetime friendships, and fostered my ability to be a leader in my future career field," said D. Armijo.

D. Armijo recognizes that the Corps flexibility in her work schedule for the last four years as an automation clerk in the Geotechnical Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste branch created opportunities that led to some of her achievements.

"Value your employment here

at the Corps because they truly cater to students needs and understand the need to be flexible with work scheduling," said D. Armijo. "I could not have been as successful without the flexibility allowed by my supervisors. The Corps is a great place to work for students."

Carol McKinney, Chief of the Geotechnical Engineering HTRW Branch, and supervisor to D. Armijo was not surprised that she became the recipient

of such a prestigious award.

"She is an exceptional young woman," said McKinney. "For every task we have given her she has done exceptionally well. She meets challenges very well."

"I am very surprised that she has been able to accomplish so many things in such a short life span," said T. Armijo.

D. Armijo, a presidential scholar, now has a major in Business Administration and Financial Management with a minor in Economics. She hopes to one day own her own business, but her more immediate goal is to begin working toward an MBA at one of these universities and colleges: Stanford, Northwestern University, University of Chicago or the University of Texas.

She serves as an Activities Chairwoman and President for the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority as well as being the Vice President of Standards for the Gamma Beta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

She also earned national recognition for her work as Vice President of Standards for Fraternity Life.

D. Armijo, selected by the Kappa Kappa Gamma National Fraternity Counsel in 2006, lobbied on behalf of all the Kappa Kappa Gamma undergraduates on the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act and the College Fire Protection Act in Washington D.C. in April. She has repeatedly been elected into the UNM Senate, and along with the past two years continues to volunteer for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Program.

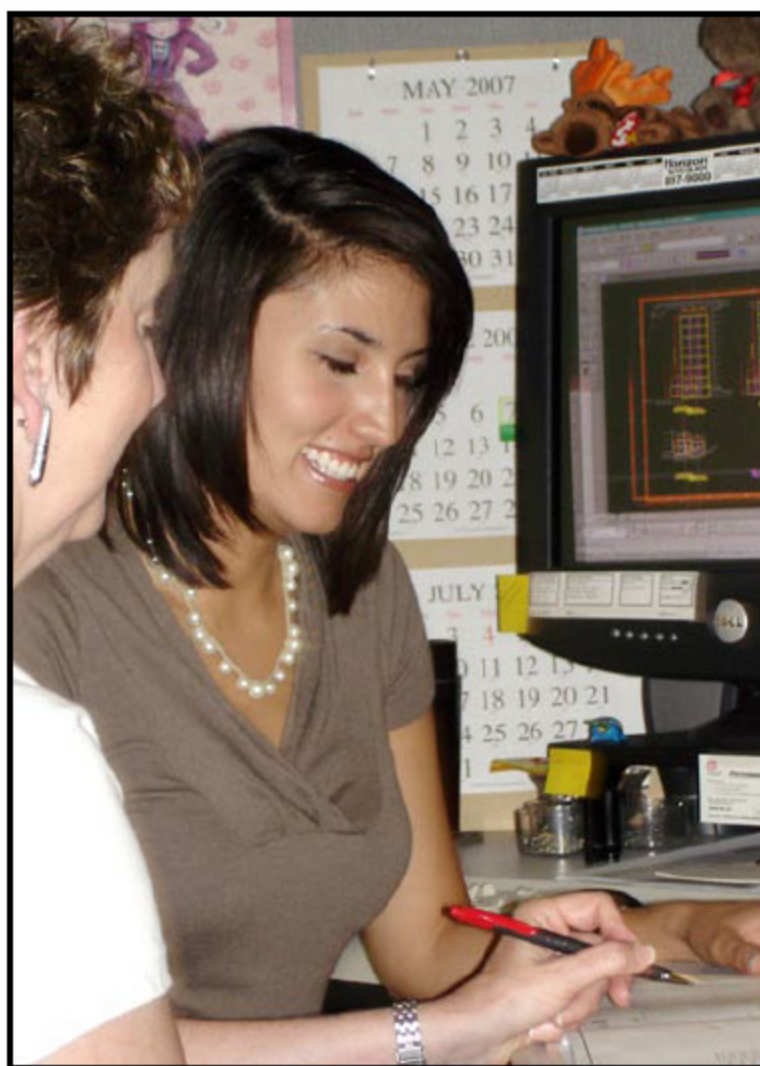


Photo by Kelsey Seeger, USACE Public Affairs
Deanna Armijo, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District Automation Clerk in the Geotechnical Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Branch confers with a coworker in June.